REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed on September 27, 2006. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Present Status of Patent Application

Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1-7 remain pending in the present application. More specifically, claims 1 and 5 are directly amended without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. These amendments and additions are specifically described hereinafter. It is believed that the foregoing amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

Response to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. Section 112

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In response thereto, Applicant has amended claim 5 as instructed by the Examiner for purposes of more clearly and/or better defining the invention in accordance with the requirements as set forth in 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Response to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim (US Pub. No. 2001/0015716 A1, "Kim" hereinafter). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection addressed to claims 1-7 for at least the reasons set forth below.

Independent claim 1, as amended, states,

"*A driving method for a pixel array, ...comprising:*

.....;

driving a first pixel in one of the pixel set and another pixel in an adjacent column of the first pixel by another gate line, wherein a phase of a voltage of a pixel electrode of the first pixel and a phase of a voltage of a pixel electrode of the another pixel are substantially different, and the first pixel and the another pixel are ***respectively in different rows*** *of the pixel array."(Emphasis added)*

Applicant respectfully submits that both the first pixel and another pixel are driven by another gate line, as supported by claim 1 of the applicant's invention, and the first pixel and another pixel are ***respectively in different rows*** of the pixel array. On the other hand, it is observed from FIG. 3 of the present application that the gate line 330 simultaneously connects to the passing circuits 370 and 372, such that the pixels 340 and 356 in different rows are both driven by the gate line 330 at the same time.

The examiner asserts that Kim teaches a driving method for a pixel array, comprising "driving two adjacent pixels in two of the pixel sets respectively by a gate line" and "driving a first pixel in one of the pixel set and another pixel in an adjacent column of the first pixel by another gate line, wherein a phase of a voltage of a pixel electrode of the first pixel and a phase of a voltage of a pixel electrode of the another pixel are substantially different". Accordingly, applicant's claim 5 is rejected based on said teaching. However, applicant would strongly disagree with said assertion. That is, FIG. 6a of Kim merely depicts the polarities of the pixels for common voltage, yet fails to suggest the fact that the same gate line drives the pixels ***in different row.***

Therefore, claim 1, as currently amended and its dependent claims 2-4, are neither taught nor suggested by Kim, and thus should be allowed.

Moreover, the Examiner rejects applicant's claim 5 based on the disclosure of a Drawing 2 equivalent to Kim's FIGs. 2 and 6a (the Drawing 2 is provided on page 5 of the Office Action). However, the Examiner appears to have ignored that the same gate line drives the pixels ***in the same row***, as shown in said Drawing 2, while FIG. 3 of the present application indicates the same gate line is capable of driving the pixels either ***in the same row*** or ***in different rows***.

From another aspect, applicant's claim 5 provides a driving method for a pixel array, stating that "when the ***prior data line*** and the ***recent data line*** belong to same data line set, the recent data line is used to drive one of ***the pixel*** disposed in a row apart from ***the pixel*** driven by the prior data line". According to the description on page 5 of the Office Action, the ***prior data line*** and the ***recent data line*** are deemed equivalent to Kim's data lines D1 and D2, respectively, and so are ***the pixel*** ("Pixel 1" in Kim) driven by the ***recent data line*** and ***the pixel*** ("Pixel 3" in Kim) driven by the ***prior data line***. Given that D1 and D2 are used to drive the Pixels 1 and 3, the gate lines respectively corresponding to the Pixels 1 and 3 should be set in an ON mode in the Drawing 2. Nevertheless, when the gate lines corresponding to the Pixels 1 and 3 are set in the ON mode, the signals inputted through D1 and D2 are simultaneously outputted to the Pixel 1, the Pixel 3, and the Pixel on top of the Pixel 3 and at the left of the Pixel 1. Thereby, the polarities of the pixels are no longer the same as depicted in the Drawing 2. Hence, Kim does not disclose the technical feature of applicant's claim 5, and the driving method provided by claim 5 of the applicant's invention is not anticipated by the Drawing 2.

Therefore, claim 5, as currently amended and its dependent claims 6-7, are neither taught nor suggested by Kim, and thus should be allowed.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, applicant respectfully submits that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims 1-7 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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